

**WE CLAIM:**

1. An apparatus comprising:
  - a body defining a chamber for carrying a combustible liquid and having an open upper end; and
  - a sheet wick having a lower end located in the chamber of the body, for contacting the combustible liquid, and an upper end projecting upwardly from the open upper end, wherein the wick is free of material having a high heat conductivity.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the sheet wick has a thickness of .025 to .075 inch and a width of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 48 inches.
3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the wick has a height of 1 to 12 inches.
4. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising first and second plates arranged in a spaced, confronting relationship with lower portions located within the chamber of the body and upper portions, wherein the sheet wick is sandwiched between the first and second plates.
5. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the upper portions are located adjacent to the open upper end.
6. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a conductive element having an upper portion extending above and curved over the upper portion of the wick and a bottom portion located in the chamber of the body.
7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the wick is configured in a selected decorative shape as viewed from above.
8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the wick is configured in a line, arc, circle, square, triangle, heart, alpha-numeric shapes, depending on the particular decorative use.

9. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the wick is configured as a sleeve around a rigid plate.
10. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the combustible liquid includes a fragrance or volatile compounds, and the apparatus defines a fragrance releasing apparatus.
11. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the combustible liquid includes an air purifying fuel or volatile compounds and the apparatus defines an air freshener apparatus.
12. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the apparatus is an oil lamp.
13. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the material having high heat conductivity does not melt, crack or shatter under a high heat temperature.
14. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the wick is a stone wick.
15. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the wick is a solid, permeable, inorganic wick.
16. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a lid configured to sit over the open upper end.
17. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the wick is made of an inorganic fibrous material.
18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the wick is made of fiberglass, graphite, polyamide, or polyethylene.
19. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the wick is woven.
20. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the combustible liquid is mineral oil, paraffin oil,

aliphatic hydrocarbon oils, naphthenic hydrocarbon oils, kerosene, alcohols, vegetable oils, surfactants, fatty acids, stearic acids, triglycerides or ethers.

21. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a snuffer lid adapted to fit on the body to extinguish the wick when burning.

22. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the wick is a solid mineral wick with fiber material.

23. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the fiber material is fiberglass, graphite, polyamide, or polyethylene

24. An apparatus comprising:

a body defining a chamber for carrying a combustible liquid and having an open upper end;

first and second plates arranged in a spaced, confronting relationship with lower portions located within the chamber of the body and upper portions; and

a sheet wick sandwiched between the first and second plates and having a lower end located in the chamber of the body, for contacting the combustible liquid; and an upper end projecting upwardly from the upper portions of the first and second plates.

25. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the first and second plates interlock.

26. The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the plates are joined together along an outer edge of an upright leg of one of the plates.

27. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the plates are rectangular or square.

28. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the plates are made of metal, ceramic or plastic.

29. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the plates display a design, decoration or color on a flat side of the plate.
30. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the wick has a core lining or stiffening agent.
31. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the wick is a rigid, sheet wick.
32. The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising a plurality of clips positioned on side edges of the first and second plates to sandwich the sheet wick between the plates.
33. The apparatus of claim 32 wherein at least one of the clips has a top portion extending above and curved over the upper portion of the wick, side flanges configured to hold the first and second plates and the wick together, and a bottom portion positioned in the chamber of the body.
34. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the first and second plates are configured to hold the wick such that the upper portion of the wick forms a selected decorative shape as viewed from above.
35. The apparatus of claim 34 wherein the selected decorative shape is selected from a group consisting of line, arc, circle, square, triangle, heart, and alpha-numeric shapes.
36. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the sheet wick has a thickness of .025 to .075 inch and a width of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 48 inches.
37. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the combustible liquid includes a fragrance, and the apparatus defines a fragrance releasing apparatus.
38. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the combustible liquid includes an air purifying fuel, and the apparatus defines an air freshener apparatus.

39. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the apparatus is an oil lamp.
40. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the upper portions are located adjacent to the open upper end.
41. An apparatus comprising:
  - a body defining a chamber for carrying a combustible liquid and having an open upper end;
  - first and second plates arranged in a spaced, parallel relationship with lower portions located within the chamber of the body and upper portions;
  - a plurality of clips to clamp the first and second plates; and
  - a sheet wick sandwiched between the first and second plates and having a lower end located in the chamber of the body, for contacting the combustible liquid, and an upper end projecting upwardly from the upper portions of the first and second plates.
42. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the upper portions are located adjacent to the open upper end.
43. The apparatus of claim 41 further comprising a lid configured to sit over the open upper end.
44. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the plates are formed of glass, metal or ceramic.
45. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein at least one of the clips has a top portion extending above and curved over the upper portion of the wick, side flanges configured to hold the first and second plates and the wick together, and a bottom portion located in the chamber of the body.
46. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the first and second plates are configured to

hold the wick such that the upper portion of the wick forms a selected decorative shape as viewed from above.

47. The apparatus of claim 46 wherein the selected decorative shape is selected from a group consisting of arc, circle, square, triangle, heart, and alpha-numeric shapes.

48. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein at least one of the plates has displays design, decoration and/or color on a flat side of the plate.

49. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the combustible liquid includes a fragrance, and the apparatus defines a fragrance releasing apparatus.

50. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the combustible liquid includes an air purifying fuel, and the apparatus defines an air freshener apparatus.

51. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the apparatus is an oil lamp.

52. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the wick is made of an inorganic fibrous material.

53. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the wick is .025 to .075 inch thick and ½ to forty-eight inches wide.

54. The apparatus of claim 53 wherein the wick is 1 to 12 inches tall.

55. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the plates curve.

56. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein at least one of the plates is rectangular or square shaped.

57. An apparatus comprising:

a container for containing a combustible liquid; and  
support structure connected to the container and adapted to hold a sheet wick  
upright in the container such that an upper end of the sheet wick extends above a top  
surface of the combustible liquid in the container.

58. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the container has a floor and the support  
structure is mounted to and extends up from the floor.

59. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the support structure includes a pair of U-  
shaped walls mounted in spaced confronting relation.

60. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the support structure includes a pair of  
spaced upright plates.

61. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the container includes legs to provide a  
cooling air flow to a low surface of the container.

62. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the container includes an outwardly extending  
ledge about a top perimeter of the container.

63. The apparatus of claim 62 wherein the ledge includes heat and fragrance  
releasing holes.

64. The apparatus of claim 57 further comprising a snuffer lid adapted to fit on the  
container to extinguish the wick when burning.

65. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the wick is a solid mineral wick with fiber  
material.

66. The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the fiber material is fiberglass, graphite,  
polyamide, or polyethylene

67. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the wick is a solid, permeable, stone wick.
68. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the wick is a solid mineral wick with fiber material.
69. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the container is made of metal, ceramic or plastic.
70. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the support structure is made of wood, metal, ceramic, glass, plastic or cardboard.
71. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the wick is .025 to .075 inch thick and 1 to 12 inches wide.
72. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the quantity of combustible liquid in the container is between 2 and 64 ounces.
73. The apparatus of claim 72 where the quantity is approximately 12 ounces.
74. The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the liquid is selected from the group consisting of mineral oils, paraffin oils, aliphatic hydrocarbon oils, naphthenic hydrocarbon oils, kerosene, alcohols, vegetable oils, surfactants, fatty acids, triglycerides, glycerides or ethers.
75. A wick comprising:  
a piece of material made of inorganic fibrous material and having a thickness between .025 and .05 inch and a width of between one inch and forty-eight inches.
76. The wick of claim 75 wherein the inorganic fibrous material is selected from the group consisting of ceramics, fritted glass, fiberglass, porcelain, stone, terra cotta,

asbestos, graphite, polyamide, polyethylene and a combination thereof.

77. The wick of claim 75 wherein the piece of material has a height of between 1 and 36 inches.

78. The wick of claim 75 wherein the piece of material is sheet, flat on both sides thereof.

79. The wick of claim 78 wherein the wick displays a decoration on the flat side of the sheet.

80. The wick of claim 75 wherein the wick is configured in a selected decorative shape as viewed from above.

81. The wick of claim 80 wherein the selected decorative shape is selected from a group consisting of arc, circle, line, square, triangle, heart and alpha-numeric shapes and letters.

82. The wick of claim 75 wherein the inorganic fibrous material is permeable.

83. The wick of claim 82 wherein the wick is included in a fragrance releasing apparatus.

84. The wick of claim 75 wherein the material is dyed.